

**REMARKS**

After entry of this response, Claims 1-4 and 6-8 remain pending in the present application. Applicant requests reconsideration by the Examiner in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1-4 and 6-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson et al. (US 6,418,346).

The Nelson reference is disqualified as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §103(c). The present application and the Nelson reference were, at the time the invention of the present application was made, owned by Medtronic, Inc. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-4 and 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Nelson.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Should any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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